



United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Development

Alturas Field Office

221 W. 8th Street
Alturas, CA
96101-3211

Voice 530.233.4137
Fax 844.206.6796

September 19, 2016

Attachment D

Via Email & Regular Mail

Daniel H. Lutz, Staff Attorney
Animal Protection Litigation
The Humane Society of the United States
1255 23rd Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Re: FOIA Case No. 2016-RD-05350-F

Dear Mr. Lutz:

Thank you for providing the additional information, and after careful review your request for a fee waiver is approved.

As noted in our previous correspondence, we have identified 9 projects that contain approximately 2,810 pages that are responsive to your request. The agency has determined to comply with your request and has begun the process of compiling the records.

It is the policy of the Agency to not release any information that falls within any of the nine statutory exemptions of the FOIA disclosure provisions which are outlined in 5 U.S.C. 552. In addition, your request involves information related to businesses that are of a commercial nature. In accordance with Executive Order 12600, "Predisclosure Notification Procedures for Confidential Commercial Information" agencies are required to provide business submitters an opportunity to object before releasing any information that the business may consider to be proprietary.

Our goal is to provide the non-exempt materials as promptly as possible, and due to the volume of records involved we plan to process the projects separately and make partial releases as we complete our review of each of the nine project files. We expect to begin releasing records within 45 days.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (530) 233-4137 x 112, or via e-mail at mike.colbert@ca.usda.gov.

Please reference the FOIA case number listed above in any of your communications with this office.

Sincerely,



J. Michael Colbert
Area Specialist/FOIA Coordinator

cc: Karen Rich, Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development,
Davis, CA